

Carter: Palestinian state is out

LONDON, April 29 (R). — President Carter said in an exclusive interview published here today that he believes a permanent Middle East settlement will not include an independent Palestinian nation on the West Bank of the Jordan. The Sunday Times carried the interview with Trude B. Feldman of the New York Times in which the president was quoted as saying: "I have never favoured an independent Palestinian state. I still don't favour one and I have no intention of deviating from that position." The president was reported to have said he believed a permanent settlement would be based substantially on the home rule proposal for the Israeli occupied West Bank put forward by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

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AMMAN, SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1978 — JAMADI AWAL 22, 1398

Happy Easter

Because of the Easter holiday and Labour Day, the Jordan Times will not appear on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The Jordan Times will be back on the news stands on Wednesday. We take this opportunity to wish our readers a happy Easter.

Price: Jordan 60 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Carter: Package plane sales in Israel's best interests

WASHINGTON, April 29 (AP). — U.S. President Jimmy Carter said today that Israel Prime Minister Menachem Begin never expressed any concern about the proposed sale of warplanes to Saudi Arabia and Egypt when he was here last month. Carter said he was with Begin for several hours during the two-day visit, and the prime minister "never mentioned to me one time any way he might have about sale of weapons" to the countries.

are well recognized and trusted."

Hoss begins talks to form his new Lebanese cabinet

BEIRUT, April 29 (R). — Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss today began talks with political leaders on forming a new government following his re-appointment by President Elias Sarkis last night.

Dr. Hoss, whose eight-man cabinet of technocrats resigned on April 19, was expected to announce an enlarged government comprised mainly of career politicians within the next few days.

The moves followed parliamentary approval of a plan for tackling the country's severe internal problems which have persisted since the 1975-76 civil war.

In an interview, Dr. Hoss said he was meeting the leaders of parliamentary blocs today and tomorrow and hoped to form a cabinet of about 19 ministers soon.

"The slogan of my first government was reconstruction," he told the English-Language daily. "I think national accord might be a proper slogan for the next one."

After meeting President Elias Sarkis last night, Dr. Hoss stressed the enormous difficulties facing his new government, and called for the support of all Lebanese.

His reappointment followed urgent moves to reconcile the leaders of the country's myriad political and religious factions.

These efforts culminated in the adoption on Thursday of a six-point formula which emphasised restoring security through strong government authority.

The plan, worked out by a parliamentary committee, recommended banning private militias and rebuilding the army, which split into at least four rival groups during the civil war.

Political analysts have said the proposals were unlikely to be implemented soon, and were regarded more as a declaration of principles for the new government.

Basim Gemayel, overall commander of the powerful right-wing militia, has indicated they will not be disbanded until the Palestinians are disarmed.

Violence reported

At least two people died when a car carrying explosives blew up in a Beirut suburb today.

Mr. Carter sent the arms proposal to the Senate and House of Representatives yesterday.

Although the three sale proposals were sent to Congress separately, Mr. Carter has indicated he will not sell more planes to Israel if the jets for Egypt or Saudi Arabia are rejected.

Mr. Carter said the weapons for Saudi Arabia and Egypt are acknowledged to be defensive in nature, "and I think this provides us with the kind of relationship of influence in the moderate Arab world which is conducive to peace for Israel."

They said the bodies in the car were so badly mutilated they could not be sure whether two or three people had been killed in the explosion.

In another incident today, police said Arab peace-keeping troops fired Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG's) at unidentified gunmen in the southeastern Christian suburb of Ain Rummaneh who had reportedly shot at them. There were no casualties.

Search is on for possible assassins

Meanwhile, security investigators searched for clues today to determine whether the slaying of a government official in Beirut's Moslem sector as a criminal act or a political assassination.

Two hooded gunmen fired 10 bullets at close range Friday night, killing Habbib Al Abdullah, director of economic affairs at Lebanon's Foreign Ministry. The attack occurred as he was entering his car in front of his apartment building Friday night. They escaped on a motorcycle, a police spokesman said.

Al Abdullah, 63, a former ambassador to Kuwait and United Arab Emirates, was from a Moslem Shiite family in south Lebanon that supports parliament Speaker Kamel Assaad. The speaker was chief architect of the six point plan to bring about national reconciliation.

Israeli forces prepare 3rd Lebanese pullback

TEL AVIV, April 29 (R). — Israeli soldiers were preparing today to begin a third phased withdrawal in southern Lebanon tomorrow.

This will leave the Israeli army in control of a strip of southern Lebanon extending six to ten kms. from the border crossed by an Israeli invasion force just over a month ago.

The region to be evacuated by the Israelis is to be patrolled by soldiers of the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNTFIL) which is gradually being brought up to its planned strength of 4,000 men.

U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has said the force may have to be increased to 6,000 to be able to perform its peace-keeping role properly.

When the third stage of the withdrawal is completed, Israeli forces will be standing approximately on a line they originally said would be the limit of the invasion.

Former chief of staff Lt-Gen. Mordechai Gur said the objective of the Israeli invasion, which followed a Palestinian guerrilla attack on an Israeli bus which left over 35 dead, was to force a new political situation in which the Lebanese government would take control of the border region to prevent guerrillas using it as a base for operations against Israel.

He said the decision to send U.N. forces into the area to replace Israeli troops led to Israel's decision to extend Israeli-occupied territory.

King Hussein returns home after Rome meeting with Pope, Italian leaders



Pope Paul presents His Majesty King Hussein with an olive branch during Saturday's audience at the Vatican. (AP wirephoto)

President Giovanni Leone meets His Majesty King Hussein on the King's arrival at Rome's Quirinale Palace for a business lunch Saturday. (Photo Zahrah)

AMMAN, April 29 (Agencies). — His Majesty King Hussein today returned home after a four-day visit to Yugoslavia and Italy during which he met President Tito of Yugoslavia, Pope Paul VI and Italy's President Giovanni Leone.

King Hussein, on a five-hour stopover in Rome on his way home from Belgrade, met Pope Paul who renewed his hopes that "a just end way be put to the sad situation of the Palestinians."

Receiving King Hussein in private audience at the Vatican the Pope repeated earlier appeals for peace based on recognition of the legitimate rights of all parties in the Middle East.

"We wish to declare to you our heartfelt desire that the leaders concerned may come decisively to grips with the crucial issues of the conflict and through wisdom and good will find a solution to them," the Roman Catholic pontiff told the King.

"In particular, we once again express the hope that a just end may be put to the sad situation of the Palestinians, and that Jerusalem, the holy city for the three great monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, may really become the 'high place' of peace."

King Hussein said in reply that a lasting and viable peace must be rooted in justice and human dignity.

Jordan, Yugoslavia stress need for Israeli withdrawal, Palestinian rights in joint communique

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, April 29 (AP). — Yugoslavia and Jordan have reiterated that a just and lasting solution of the crisis in the Middle East is possible only if Israel withdraws from all Arab territories it occupied in 1967 and recognizes legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and self-determination to form their own state.

This was stated in a joint communique issued Saturday after this week's official visit by King Hussein to Yugoslavia and his talks with President Tito.

The communique said that such a solution presupposes the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as equal partner in all plans for the settlement of the crisis, as well as the right of all peoples and countries in the region to independent and safe development.

Any attempt at imposing a solution harmful to Arab countries and the Palestinian people would only prolong the crisis and make efforts towards a peaceful and lasting settlement more difficult.

The communique emphasized the importance of unity and solidarity among Arab countries and of their joint actions in search of a settlement and said both Yugoslavia and Jordan support efforts that were being made in that direction.

The two countries, the communique said, have again condemned Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and demanded the urgent withdrawal of Israel and full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425.

The two sides condemned the Israeli invasion of south Lebanon as "a flagrant violation of Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and a challenge to peace and security in the world."

The invasion was aimed directly against the Palestinian people, its existence and national rights, and had made the situation in the region more dangerous, the communique said.

The communique said that in the talks attention was given to the situation in the Horn of Africa. Both sides pointed to the urgency of a meeting of the Organisation of African Unity to find a just and lasting peace in the area.

In discussing the activity of Non-Aligned countries, the two sides expressed concern over attempts by "some outside factors" to cause divisions among them by exploiting their internal difficulties and mutual disputes. It called for efforts by all Non-Aligned countries to overcome their disputes peacefully.

The two sides said that efforts to establish a New International Economic Order so far have not brought expected results. It said that it was in the interest of peace and stability in the world to continue negotiations between the developed and developing countries, within the United Nations.

The two sides placed particular emphasis on the importance of the forthcoming U.N. session on disarmament, and called for greater unity of action and cooperation of Non-Aligned countries in efforts to stop the arms race, the communique said.

King Hussein and Mr. Tito assessed that the lessening of international tension is in the interest of all countries and emphasised the need for all countries contributing to this. The high powers have the greatest responsibility in this respect, the communique said.

Moro letter accuses party of allowing him to be "led to his death"

ROME, April 29 (R). — An emotional letter from kidnapped ex-Premier Aldo Moro alleged today that his fellow Christian Democrats had abandoned him and he reiterated calls for an exchange of prisoners between the government and his leftwing guerrilla captors.

One high official said the release of the new letter meant that the Moro case would continue for a long time yet.

The exchange of prisoners was the price Red Brigades had set for the release of their hostage, abducted in Rome on March 16 after the guerrilla gang had killed his five bodyguards.

Rome's chief public prosecutor, Giovanni di Matteo, told reporters: "What had been considered the ultimatum of the Red Brigades does not appear to be such after latest message."

Shops reopen in Kabul as troops appear in control of city

NEW DELHI, April 29 (R). — Hundreds of students wearing red scarves today appeared in the streets of Kabul where Afghan rebel troops seemed in full control of the capital following Thursday's bloody military coup, diplomatic sources said.

Shops in the capital reopened and the red scarved youths took over the direction of traffic, the sources said.

Tanks and armoured vehicles patrolled Kabul streets but no fighting had been reported since yesterday.

The national airport and land borders remained closed for the third day.

Diplomatic sources said they had reports that several members of Kabul's police force had either been executed or arrested following the coup.

Heavy casualties were reported last Thursday when rebel troops attacked the presidential palace with tanks and fighter-bombers.

The ageing President Daoud, who seized power five years ago in a military-backed coup which ousted his cousin King Zahir Shah, was killed along with his brother Mohammad Naim when he refused to surrender.

A cabinet meeting was in progress when the tanks rolled up outside the palace on Thursday.

Kabul Radio today resumed scheduled broadcasts of news bulletins, and diplomatic observers here said this was another indication that things were returning to normal.

The radio said today that Afghanistan's vice-president, two cabinet ministers and the air force chief were killed after refusing to surrender to the rebel forces who killed President Daoud.

Yesterday, the radio made announcements every half hour claiming success for the military command and asking people to go back to work.

But Western embassies in Kabul have had no contact with the new rulers and analysts said their policies were still unclear.

The military command has already announced they believe in positive neutrality, peaceful co-existence and respect for the United Nations.

Suez oil storage tanks explode

CAIRO, April 29 (R). — Two huge oil storage tanks exploded at the Abu Shukair oilfields on the western bank of the Gulf of Suez, an Oil Ministry spokesman announced here today. Spoman Mohammed Afifi said the fire in the 30,000-barrel capacity tanks yesterday was brought under control and put out by the help of military helicopters. He declined to give the number of casualties or damage but said at least two oil men were in serious condition. The mass circulation weekly Al-Ahram said today 10 military helicopters and one aircraft helped local fire brigades put out the fire. The Morgan and July fields at Abu Shukair produce about 400,000 barrels daily, per cent of Egypt's gross crude production.

Nimeiri due in Syria next week

DAMASCUS, April 29 (R). — Sudanese President Jaafar Nimeiri will visit Damascus next week for talks with Syrian leaders, latest Arab developments, official sources said here today. Reports that President Nimeiri would arrive in the Syrian capital tomorrow were not true. In fact he will be arriving between April 4-6 as part of a tour of several Arab countries aimed at reconciling differences over Middle East peace moves, the source added. The Sudanese president heads an Arab solidarity committee aimed at re-uniting Arab ranks. Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskander was quoted in Riyadh today as saying Nimeiri would not attend any Arab summit as long as peace talks were continuing between Egypt and Israel.

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Editor: KAMEL GHOURI
Managing Editor: JENAB TUTUNJI
Deputy Managing Editor: RASSAM BISHUTI
Editorial Staff: ALAN MARTINY
Board of Directors: JUMA'A HAMAD, RAJA ELISSA, MOHAMAD AMAD, MAHMOUD AL KAYED
Responsible Editor: MOHAMAD AMAD

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan
 Telephones: 67171-2-3-4

Tlx: 1407 Al Rai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman Jordan

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A very big battle is on

We may be exhibiting an Arab trait of exaggerated over-reaction, but we think the current contest between the American president and the Congress over the package of warplane sales to Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia is of paramount -- indeed, historic -- importance in terms of the will and the ability of the United States to act as an honest mediator in the Middle East. This planes package question grows more important every day, because it will probably determine for a long time to come the terms of reference within which the Carter administration plays its role in the Middle East.

There have been indications for the past six months that the Carter people would rather avert a showdown with Congress, but this month we have seen that momentum reversed to the point where a confrontation has been set in motion, albeit it has been softened down slightly by this week's letter of the U.S. Secretary of State to Senator Frank Church, in which the administration said it would agree to the Congress reviewing the three plane sales individually, which the Congress would have done in any case. It is important to read Mr. Vance's letter for what it is -- a soothing and necessary public relations move, not a major withdrawal from principles. The three plane deals will be considered in the end by President Carter as one package, as Mr. Vance made clear in his letter, even though Congress will discuss them individually.

The interesting element that has emerged on the American scene recently is a sophisticated lobbying effort on behalf of the package deal by top Carter administration officials, including, most recently, speeches supporting the package by Middle East envoy Alfred Atherton, Secretary of the Air Force John Stetson and State Department Under-Secretary for Security Assistance Lucy Benson. Mr. Carter has learned from the Zionist camp, and has set in motion a professional lobbying and public education programme that he hopes will prove as successful as did his similar programme to win Senate approval for the Panama Canal treaties. In other words, Mr. Carter is trying to beat the Israelis at their own game. He will be watched very closely by all concerned, because victory or defeat in this matter will go very far in determining how effective the United States can be as a mediator in the Middle East. So far, Mr. Carter has not made any mistakes. But the battle has just begun.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL DUSTOUR Saturday referred to the importance of His Majesty King Hussein's meeting in the Vatican with Pope Paul to discuss peace in the Middle East. It expects Jerusalem to be given special attention in the discussions of the two leaders. The situation in the holy city, under Israeli occupation, "has assumed the proportion of an Islamic-Christian calamity, with its heritage being deliberately tampered with, its holy places desecrated and its Arab inhabitants driven out of their homes."

The rescue of Jerusalem is an Islamic-Christian-Arab duty. Joint cooperation for this end will be nearer to success now than at any other time. Al Dustour says.

AL RA'I says the complex and deplorable situation in Lebanon reflects the weak and divided Arab position. Every Arab knows the cause of the disease and the medicine needed to cure it, but nobody wants to use this medicine, the paper says. In this sad situation, Al Ra'i says, President Carter's administration, under Zionist pressure, has retreated from the aircraft package deal to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel, and agreed that each part of the deal is open to debate.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Petra Photo Exhibit

A photo exhibit showing scenes from Petra is on display daily at the French Cultural Centre. The exhibit runs until May 4th.

Jordan Photo Exhibit

Opening today, an exhibition of photos by Fakhri Malkawi depicting life in Jordan will be showing till May 1st at the Soviet Cultural Centre on Jabal Amman.

RSS Lecture

Dr. Albert Butros, Director of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), is giving a lecture on the RSS at the British Council on Tuesday evening at 6:30.

At Soviet Cultural Centre

Reality is the key of Jordanian's photo show

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, April 29 -- "Touches of reality" is the name which Fakhri Malkawi has given to his photographic exhibition at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

It is a good title. The show is unspectacular but it is well worth going to, Fakhri Malkawi is not particularly strong on composition, and it is annoying that the photos are so carelessly displayed. But they are not carelessly taken, and contain some sensitively observed scenes of life in Jordan.

Especially good are the portraits of people. But there are also some more general scenes -- mostly taken downtown in Amman -- which provide a bit of gentle social comment. "You must not be too brusque," Fakhri Malkawi says.

Having trained in France and returned to work as a cameraman for Jordan Television, one of the things that strikes him about Jordan is the problem of the young people -- in particular their ambivalence. Now that there is such a big gap between themselves and the older people.

A lot of the photos deal with the theme of tradition in a time of change. But there is nothing too fancy either about his philosophy or about his technique. The photos are all meant to be "touches of reality".

The show ends Sunday.



These are black and white reproductions of some of the photos by Fakhri Malkawi on show now at the Soviet Cultural Centre.



Population data bank urged to streamline information in Jordan

By Breda Flanagan
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 29 -- The conference on demography and social change at the University of Jordan which closed on Thursday recommended that a data bank for population statistics be set up in Jordan.

The bank, according to Dr. Suleiman Abdul Aty, Professor of Economics at the University of Jordan and Vice Chairman of the conference, was

that he believed there were plans to conduct another census sometime this year.

Does Jordan have the equipment with which to test the models from Egypt and Sudan?

"Yes, we have a computer in the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and one here at the University of Jordan, although that one is not fully operational yet," Dr. Abdul Aty told me.

Dr. Monzer Salah, the direc-

ch were presented at the meeting.

Other recommendations were:

-- That Jordan should adopt some kind of population policy, integrating educational planning and vocational training with human resources.

-- Using the media to publicise on-going activities in this field and the need for demographic planning.

-- Conducting field studies to determine the relationship between population components and socio-economic factors.

-- Initiating the teaching of demographic studies at secondary level and at the B.A. level at universities.

-- Better cooperation between the universities of Jordan and Yarmouk and government bodies in conducting research on population trends and sharing information, and.

-- The exchange of publications and expertise between the Population Studies Centre at the University of Jordan and the American University of Cairo.

It was also suggested that a human resources survey for all Arab countries be carried out by the Arab Labour Organisation of the Arab League, and that bilateral agreements should be concluded on the move-

One of the difficulties in making long-term projections here in Jordan is that there is very little existing data to work on.

uld store information on the people in the whole of Jordan, such as birth rates, level of education, job experience, place of residence and so on.

The data would be then fed into computers programmed to a demographic model or formula; from which, according to the model and the information fed into the computer, long-term projections could be made in, say, the expected population of any given area -- Amman or even the whole country -- by the year 2000.

This information is essential for planning in all fields, especially in health, education, and labour, Dr. Abdul Aty went on.

At the two-day conference, demographic models already used in population projections in Egypt and Sudan were discussed at length, with particular emphasis on amending them to suit Jordan.

One of the difficulties in making long-term projections here in Jordan is that there is very little existing data to work on. Statistics on the population here have been gathered in a rather haphazard and fragmentary way involving recording details by hand. Every ministry, for instance, records and stores information relevant to its work, but there is no central body to collect and coordinate the bits and pieces.

The data bank would change all that.

Doesn't Jordan carry out a regular census?
 "Well no, not regularly," Dr. Abdul Aty replied. "The first national one was carried out in 1961 but since then there has not been another."

Dr. Abdul Aty said however

"(The conference on demography and social change) marks the beginning of better understanding and progress"

use the more recent and accurate data -- and the more recent the base year -- the better.

From this combination of information, projections can be made which will be invaluable in the planning of services for the present and future populations.

The conference, however, warned that the collection of statistical data on education, the labour force and health in Jordan should be adequate for the mathematical models which

ment and exchange of labour.

Finally Dr. A. M. Zikry, a U.N. expert in population studies working at the university of Jordan seemed very satisfied with the results of the conference.

One of its objectives, he told the Jordan Times, was simply to get the experts together to look in particular at the situation in Jordan.

"This has been achieved, and marks the beginning of better understanding and progress," he said.



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Our "What's going on" section needs YOUR help if it is going to be a success. It's the news of your clubs, your exhibitions, your meetings and outings that are open to the public which appear in "What's going on." Help us to help you publicise your public events. Charity bazaars, school open days, concerts, commercial exhibitions -- our readers are interested in your event. Please write us at P.O. Box 6710, telephone 67171 or even call in at our offices on the Amman-Swedish road between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and tell us what's going on. The Jordan Times will publish free listings on the day of the event.

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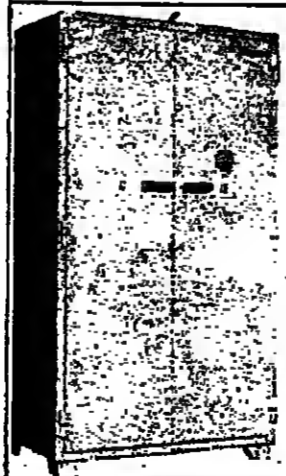
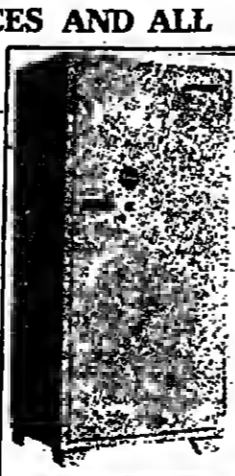
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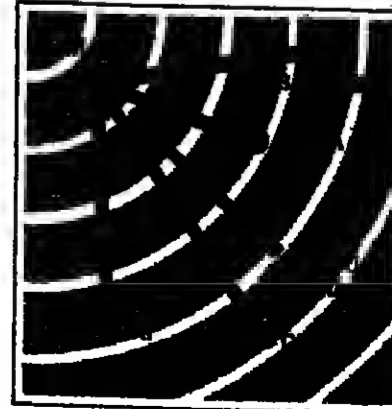
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مكتبة الامم

New asbestos cement industry sets up shop away from Jordan's urban centres

Text and photos
by Ian Kellas

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 25 — Industry has moved into the Jordan Valley. Amiantit Jordan Co. is in the middle of building a JD 2 million factory that will have a capacity next year of 40,000 tons p.a. of asbestos cement piping and sheeting.

Set in bleak lunar landscape near the shores of the Dead Sea seven kms. from south Shams one part of the factory is already turning out about 2,000 tons of plastic PVC and polyethylene piping a year.

But the manufacture of asbestos cement, due to start early next year will take place

on a much bigger scale and will be one good test of how feasible it is to run a factory in Jordan miles away from any urban centre, let alone from Amman.

One of the reasons Amiantit chose to set up shop in the Jordan Valley is that they have their eye on the big irrigation projects which are planned for the region. The area under irrigation there is supposed to be tripled to 36,000 hectares within five years.

Until now asbestos cement pipes for irrigation and sewage have been imported mainly from the U.S. Amiantit are confident however that they can undercut their foreign competitors. After all they

will not have to ship their enormous pipes (they range in size from 80 millimetres in diameter up to 800) half way round the world to get them here.

The asbestos fibres will still have to be imported. They will be bought from Cyprus, Australia, Canada or Africa, depending on the state of the market. But the cement which makes up about 75 per cent of the mixture is available locally.

'Value added' industry

The factory represents the kind of "value added" industry that Jordan is keen on promoting. The technology and some of the raw materials are imported but the final product is put together here, employing Jordanians with no special skills as well as bringing in foreign currency through export sales.

Amiantit's sister company from Lebanon, Amiantit S.A.L., which draws on Swiss expertise, has designed and even manufactured much of the plant to be set up here.

The system that they have designed for the asbestos cement production line is quite different from the existing one for mastic oil pipe. In the case of the polyethylene and the PVC, the appropriate raw material is fed in powder form into a machine which heats and mixes it and then pushes it continuously through a mould. A cutter lops

off the pipe in appropriate lengths.

To make asbestos cement pipes on the other hand you must first grind up the asbestos fibres and mix them wet and dry with the cement. The mixture is then fed by water on to a moving belt made of felt. This deposits it on to a rotating mandrel (a rod) until the required thickness is built up. The mandrel is then taken off the machine and the asbestos wrapped around it is allowed to dry. When you remove the rod altogether you are left with a three-metre length of piping. This is allowed to harden and is then carried off to be cured and finally lathed to give it a clean finish.

The Manager of Amiantit Jordan, Mr. Nicolo Nahas, described the market for piping in Jordan as "booming", but with an expected turnover of something in the region of JD 2 million, the company is planning to sell a good deal abroad.

Jordan is engaged in upgrading the sewage systems in its major cities. And this is something that has high priority to a country where so much reliance will be placed in future on water recycling. But there are also places in Saudi Arabia where sewage schemes are not just being upgraded but even being built for the first time. Mr. Nahas said Amiantit is confident that it will be in a good position to exploit that demand as well. Mr. Nahas said that

the company also hopes to export to Syria.

Alone in the wilderness

In the meanwhile, however, Amiantit is struggling with the problems of setting up a factory in the wilderness. The Five Year Plan calls for the decentralisation of industry outside the Amman region. But in the dust and heat of the Jordan Valley it is easy to understand what the practical snags are.

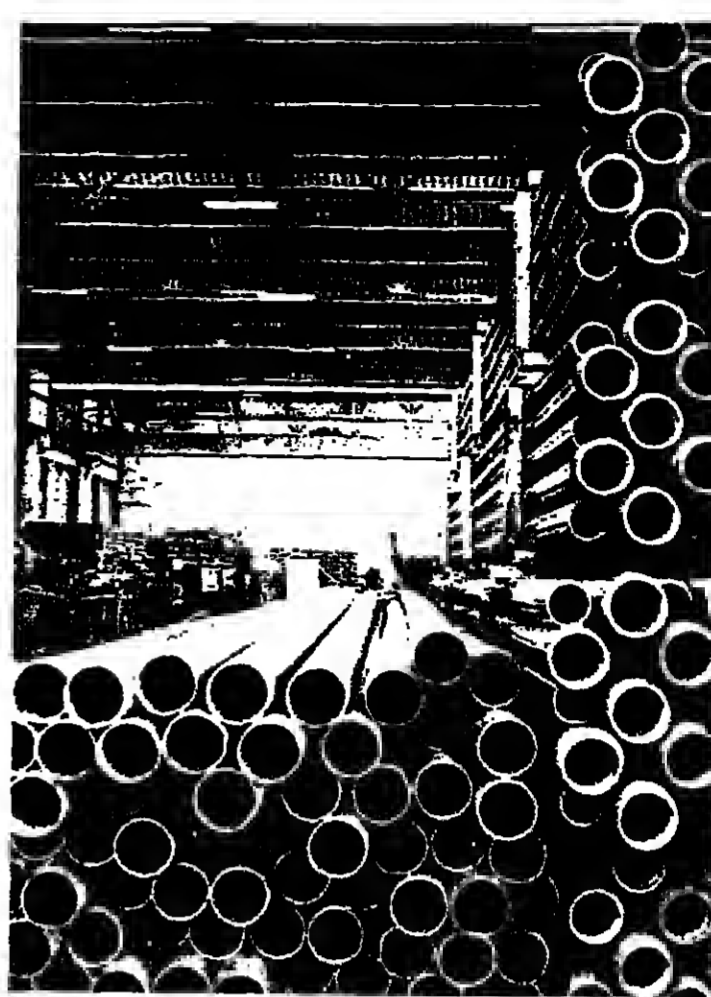
The government offers substantial incentives to firms to build outside Amman. Instead of the normal six years of income tax grace afforded to a new industry, a factory outside Amman can claim nine years. If government land is available in the area it is offered for sale at a knock down price. And loans from the Industrial Development Bank come at lower than normal interest.

Add to these incentives the proximity of a large market and generous amounts of water — very important in the manufacturing process — which can be pumped out of the ground on location, and you have the main reasons why Amiantit chose this remote site.

But "I personally regret it", said Mr. Nahas. And he pointed out that there was no telephone, no telex, no electricity and no water provided. Workers had to be bussed the 40 kms. from Amman and in the summer they would need air conditioning. The company itself will have to move from its offices in Amman down to the valley to be close to the production line. And this means building a small housing estate and new offices.

Labour problem

Then there is the problem of labour. Most of the people to be seen around the half assembled factory at the moment are straw batted technicians from Lebanon or Switzerland. But when production gets under way next year, the factory will be employing two or three hundred unskilled labourers. They will have to be recruited from the nearby villages. How easy it will be to entice the men away from their farms remains to be



PVC piping is stacked up in the first hall of the factory. In the background can be seen part of "continuous extrusion" line which makes the pipes.

Coming & Going...

AUB president arrives

for 3-day visit

AMMAN, April 29 (JNA). — The President of the American University of Beirut, Dr. Harold E. Hoelscher, arrived in Amman last night for a three-day visit at the invitation of the University of Jordan. He met today with the acting president of the university, Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, and toured various departments. Dr. Hoelscher also visited the Yarmouk University today.

West German cultural

team go to Damascus

DAMASCUS, April 29 — A delegation of three from the Cultural Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the West German government is arriving in Damascus on Tuesday, May 2, to negotiate a protocol for cultural exchange with the Syrian government.

National News Roundup...

New coffee prices announced

AMMAN, April 29 (JNA). — New prices for ground coffee to take effect from May 1, were announced today by the Ministry of Supply. Prices will be 500 fils for 250 grams of the light type, 540 fils for 250 grams of half roasted, and 580 fils per 250 grams for fully roasted coffee.

Educational aids discussed

AMMAN, April 29 (JNA). — The Under-secretary of the Ministry of Education, Ahmad Al 'Aqaiyle, opened a meeting of Arab specialists in educational aids and environmental education here today. The six day meeting which is sponsored by the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation, a specialised agency of the Arab League, in cooperation with the United Nations Programme for environmental affairs, is attended by specialists from Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Syria and Jordan as well as the Arab Centre for educational aids.

BRITISH LADIES OF AMMAN

The next meeting will be held at the British Embassy Club at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3rd, 1978. Mr. Lutfi George Sayegh from the House of Old Arts will talk on Old Jewellery. Guests welcome. No children please.

Technical cooperation between the Jordan Electricity Authority and the West German Gesellschaft Fur Electricische Anlagen GMBH GEA

Mr. Majed Al Qawasme, electrical engineer of the Aqaba zone, will be visiting West Germany to attend a six week high-level training course and to learn about the latest technological developments in the field of electricity.

During the course, which will be held in cooperation between the Jordan Electricity Authority and the West German Gesellschaft fur Electricische Anlagen GMBH (GEA), Mr. Al Qawasme will visit power and relay stations of different capacities and will acquaint himself with their functioning by computers. He will also visit factories which produce transformers, cables, switches, electric metres, wires, insulators and other electrical equipment. Mr. Al Qawasme will also pick up new ideas on the installation of electric metres in homes and businesses and methods of charging for electricity consumption.

The programme of his visit includes a tour of offices and installations of the GEA firm to look into its activities and projects. He will be watching the installation of high tension networks and the employment of helicopters in laying high tension cables over rough terrain, as well as the laying of underground cables.

According to the programme, Mr. Al Qawasme will also be taken on a tour of



GEA sister firms in France, Britain, Ireland and Greece as well as a visit to the "Hanover" International Fair to see the Electrical Equipment section.

It is to be recalled that the GEA firm has carried out the first stage of a project for the expansion and improvement of the Aqaba city electrical network. GEA representative in Jordan, Mr. Walid Al Khafid said that the course will be the first in a series to be attended by electrical engineers in the framework of cooperation between GEA and the Jordan Electricity Authority. GEA firm is one of the main West German firms for electrical construction, employing more than 5,000 engineers. It was established in 1916 as a firm specialising in electrical construction, and it has carried out numerous projects in West Germany.



The new asbestos cement production line comes out of its wrappers.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian \$/s
Buying/Selling	
U.S. dollar	312.00/314.00
U.K. sterling	569.00/573.00
W. German mark	150.40/151.30
Swiss franc	160.20/161.20
French franc	67.50/67.90
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.00/36.20
Japanese yen (for every 100)	139.30/140.10
Dutch guilder	140.70/141.10
Belgian franc (for every 100)	96.70/97.30
Swedish crown	67.50/67.90

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	PAR value	Volume traded	Opening price	Closing price
Jordan - Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	10,224	1,550	1,500
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	1,056	1,150	1,150
Jordan - Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	8,290	2,750	2,900
Dar Aldawa Development & Investment Co.	JD 1,000	2,482	1,900	1,950
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	325	1,100	1,100
Arab Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	9,070	1,200	1,150
Jerusalem Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	240	2,400	2,400
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	2,758	1,550	1,600
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	3,933	16,050	16,250
Jordan Ceramic Industries	JD 1,000	1,177	1,100	1,100
Paper and Cardboard Factories	JD 1,000	675	1,100	1,200
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	5,216	7,000	7,100

Total volume traded, Saturday, April 29 JD 45,446

* 50 per cent of share capital paid.

** 75 per cent of share capital paid.

KLM's HOLLAND flies to AMSTERDAM and on to Canada, USA, Mexico, Central and South America.

2 times a week, Wednesday at 10.15 and Friday at 09.00 KLM's Holland depart from Amman to Athens and on to Amsterdam.

	Wednesday	Friday
Amman	Dep. 10.15	09.00
Beirut	Arr. —	09.55
Athens	Dep. 13.45	13.45
Amsterdam	Dep. 14.35	14.35
	Arr. 17.05	17.05

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For information, contact your IATA Travel Agent or KLM. Tel. 22/75/6 (After office hours: Tel. 6666 73906) Amman Airport, Tel. 5501 ext. 42

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:	8:30 Arabic series
8:30 Quran	8:30 Wrestling
8:45 Cartoons	
9:00 1/2 dream of Jeanie	
9:20 The Waltons	
9:30 News in Arabic	
10:00 Best Sellers	
11:15 News in Arabic	
Channel 5:	
7:30 Survival	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00	14:00
Sign-on	Music
7:01 Morning Show	14:01 Rubayat, Khayyam
7:20 News bulletin	14:20 Concert Hour
7:40 Morning Show	14:40 Pedagogical Pop
10:00 News Headlines	16:15 Pop Session
10:30 Jordan in History	17:00 Kallia and Dimna
11:00 Sign-off	17:30 Pop Session
12:00 Sign-on and News Headlines	18:00 News Summary
12:01 News	18:30 Book Review
12:05 Pop Session	18:30 30 Minutes of Jazz
12:00 News Summary	19:00 News Bulletin
12:05 Pop Session	19:10 News Reports
12:30 News	19:30 Sign-off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Pharmacies:
Amman:	Amman:
Sa'di Khayyat (71553)	Sabbagh (20157)
Zakariya Ashour (70073)	Nasim (36194)
Irbid:	Yacoub (44045)
Muhammad Sridanah	Salim (56739)
Zargha:	Irbid:
Mazen Hanna	Amman:
Taxi:	Zargha:
Qada (30655)	Hama:
Talal (26021)	

BBC RADIO

GMT	14:30
05:00 News: Press Review	14:30 The Burke Way
05:15 Don't Miss	14:30 Radio News
05:30 People and Folk	14:30 News: Commentary
05:45 Face of England	14:30 News: Commentary
06:00 News: Press Review	14:30 News: Commentary
06:30 Sarah Ward Reports	14:30 News: Commentary
07:00 News: News about Britain	14:30 News: Commentary
07:15 Our Own Correspondent	14:30 News: Commentary
07:30 The Melody Makers	14:30 News: Commentary
07:45 Writers and Writing	14:30 News: Commentary
08:00 News: Reflections	14:30 News: Commentary
08:15 The Pleasure's Yours	14:30 News: Commentary
08:30 News: News about Britain	14:30 News: Commentary
08:45 Sports Review	14:30 News: Commentary
09:00 News: News about Britain	14:30 News: Commentary
09:15 People and Politics	14:30 News: Commentary
09:30 New Ideas	14:30 News: Commentary
09:45 Sports Review	14:30 News: Commentary
10:15 Take One	14:30 News: Commentary
10:30 Sunday Service	14:30 News: Commentary
11:00 News: News about Britain	14:30 News: Commentary
11:15 Our Own Correspondent	14:30 News: Commentary
11:30 Theatre of the Air	14:30 News: Commentary
12:30 The Baroque Concerto	14:30 News: Commentary
13:00 News: Commentary	14:30 News: Commentary
13:15 Letter from America	14:30 News: Commentary
13:30 Short Story	14:30 News: Commentary
13:45 Saudi Jones Requests	14:30 News: Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	17:30
03:00 The Breakfast Show	17:30 Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
03:00 Special English, News, Feature: Space and Man. News Summary.	17:30 Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
06:30 GMT: News, Regional and World Summary.	17:30 Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
06:30 GMT: As informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, awarded to listeners' questions.	17:30 Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, to	17:30 Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary.

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	Departures:
7:30 Kuwait	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
7:45 Jeddah	8:55 Cairo (EA)
7:50 Cairo (EA)	9:00 Beirut
8:10 Chabran (AZ)	9:00 Rome (AZ)
8:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ-GF)	9:00 Frankfurt
8:40 Riyadh (SOI)	9:30 Athens
10:30 Rawalpindi (BA)	10:00 Rome
11:15 Beirut	11:00 Riyadh, Chabran (SOI)
11:30 Kuwait (KAC)	11:30 London (BA)
17:15 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva, Athens, Larnaca, Copenhagen, Vienna, London, Paris, Rome	12:30 Kuwait (KAC)
18:45 Cairo	13:00 Cairo
18:15 Frankfurt	13:00 Jeddah
22:30 Kuwait, Dhahran	13:00 Baghdad
24:00 Rome (AZ)	20:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ-GF)
	20:30 Bahrain, Bangkok (RJ-GF)
	22:00 Tehran
	22:30 Kuwait, Dhahran
	00:45 Dubai (AZ)

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

	Tel.
American Centre	41828
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37008
Goethe Institute	41983
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Hays Arts Centre	65185
Russell Youth City	39341
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	66251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	65131
Chad Museum	36181
Voltaire Museum	36191

JORDAN TELEVISION MONDAY

Channel 3 & 6:	Channel 5:
8:30 Quran	8:30 Arabic series
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EMERGENCIES MONDAY

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Zakariya Ashour (70073)	Nasim (36194)
Irbid:	Yacoub (44045)
Muhammad Sridanah	Salim (56739)
Zargha:	Irbid:
Mazen Hanna	Amman:
Taxi:	Zargha:
Qada (30655)	Hama:
Talal (26021)	

IMF meet to probe Carter's dollar policies

McCovey of San Francisco Giants leads team to victory over Pittsburgh Pirates

MEXICO CITY, April 29 (R). — The Carter administration's policies on the U.S. dollar comes under close scrutiny when 20 finance ministers from the developing and industrialized world meet here today to discuss world economic problems.

The ministers compose the 134-member International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Interim Committee, a policy-making steering group.

Japan is known to be concerned about recent currency gyrations and so too are the European Economic Community governments whose leaders recently directed their finance ministers to develop a new plan for world currency stability.

The U.S., in turn, is due to unveil its own plan to promote greater stability in the international financial system, under which IMF members would provide far more information about currency flows than they do at present.

The plan, which U.S. Treasury Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs Anthony Solomon will explain in detail tomorrow,

is designed to identify, and then prevent, disruptive capital flows and exchange rate policies.

It builds on the mechanism already established by the IMF to monitor more closely the exchange-rate policies and practices of its member countries.

According to conference delegates here, Japan is willing to take whatever measures are necessary to expand its economy by seven per cent in real terms in the current financial year. Its real growth of 5.4 per cent last year was well below the expectations of its trading partners.

Such willingness, though, is partially dependent on the Americans ensuring dollar stability to prevent further substantial rises in export prices which could damage Japan's growth plans the delegates said.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ROUNDUP

NEW YORK, April 29 (AP). — Willie McCovey's bases-clearing double in the ninth inning lifted the San Francisco Giants to a 5-4 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates last night.

The Pirates, who had won five in a row, led 3-2 entering the ninth. But with one out, John Candelaria, 1-3, walked Bill Madlock, Darrell Evans and Jack Clark to fill the bases. The 40-year-old McCovey followed with an opposite-field double down the left-field line that was fair by a foot.

John Montefusco got the victory for the Giants, his first against one loss, with relief help from Randy Moffitt and Gary Lavelle.

Madlock and Clark had solo homers for the Giants while Dave Parker hit a two-run homer and an RBI single for the Pirates.

In other National League games, right fielder Jerry Martin hit a three-run homer and threw out a runner at the plate

to lead the Philadelphia Phillies over the San Diego Padres 3-2.

Fred Norman and Manny Surimonto combined on a three-hitter and George Foster and Dave Concepcion hit solo homers yesterday night as the Cincinnati Reds dealt the New York Mets their fifth straight loss 5-1. Pete Rose collected two hits, climbing with in nine of the 3,000 career mark.

Tony Perez delivered a two-run double and the Montreal Expos scored twice on a pair of controversial run-scoring balks by Houston reliever Tom Dixon in defeating the Astros 6-2.

Dusty Baker hit a homer and a two-run double to lead the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 7-1 triumph over the St. Louis Cardinals.

Heity Cruz hit his first two homers of the season and pinch-hitter Larry Blietner singled home the winning run with two out in the 10th inning to give the Chicago Cubs

a 4-3 triumph over the Atlanta Braves.

In the American League, Richie Zisk drove in four runs with a two-run single in the sixth inning and a two-run homer in the 11th as the Texas Rangers defeated the Boston Red Sox 5-4. Zisk has seven homers and 19 RBI for the season.

New York Yankees fired a five-hitter to beat the Minnesota Twins 3-1 as the world champion Yankees climbed above the .500 mark for the first time this season. New York, winner of three straight, is now 9-8.

Kansas City rallied for three runs in the eighth inning, the game-winner scoring on Pete Lackock's sacrifice fly, to beat the Milwaukee Brewers

7-6.

Eddie Murray's grand slam homer capped a two-run eighth inning rally which helped Baltimore to a 6-4 victory over the Chicago White Sox and halted the Orioles' four-game losing streak.

Buddy Bell singled home Paul Dade with the go-ahead run and the Cleveland Indians went on to score four runs in the eighth inning and beat the Oakland A's 6-2.

Two-run doubles by Steve Kemp and Milt May powered the Detroit Tigers past the Seattle Mariners 5-4.

Ron Fairly had a two-run homer and a run-scoring single against his former teammates to lead the California Angels over the Blue Jays 5-4.

Major league baseball results and standings after Friday's games:

NATIONAL LEAGUE:

EAST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Montreal	10	7	.588	—
Chicago	10	7	.588	—
Philadelphia	8	8	.500	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	9	11	.450	2 1/2
New York	7	11	.389	3 1/2

WEST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Los Angeles	13	5	.722	—
Cincinnati	12	7	.632	1 1/2
San Francisco	9	9	.500	4
Houston	9	11	.450	5
San Diego	7	10	.412	5 1/2
Atlanta	5	13	.278	8

Friday's games:

Chicago 4, Atlanta 3, 10 innings
Cincinnati 5, New York 1
Philadelphia 3, San Diego 2
San Francisco 5, Pittsburgh 4
Los Angeles 7, St. Louis 1
Montreal 6, Houston 3

AMERICAN LEAGUE:

EAST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Detroit	12	4	.750	—
Boston	11	7	.611	2
New York	9	8	.529	3 1/2
Milwaukee	9	9	.500	4
Cleveland	8	9	.471	4 1/2
Toronto	7	12	.368	6 1/2
Baltimore	6	11	.353	6 1/2

WEST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Oakland	14	5	.737	—
Kansas City	12	5	.706	1
California	13	6	.684	1
Texas	7	10	.412	6 1/2
Chicago	6	10	.375	6 1/2
Minnesota	7	15	.318	8 1/2
Seattle	7	17	.292	9 1/2

Friday's games:
Baltimore 6, Chicago 4
New York 3, Minnesota 1
Kansas City 7, Milwaukee 6
Texas 5, Boston 4, 11 innings
California 5, Toronto 4
Cleveland 6, Oakland 2
Detroit 5, Seattle 4

Weekly Wall Street Report

Rising interest rates boost rather than depress market's stock prices

NEW YORK, April 29 (AP). — Rising interest rates, usually a wet blanket on stock prices, instead have fuelled the flames of Wall Street's resilient rally.

The market advance faltered about mid-day on Wednesday and stalled on Thursday when the U.S. Federal Reserve Board allowed short-term credit rates to rise. But by yesterday, stock prices were marching higher even while several major banks announced increases from 8 to 8 1/4 per cent in their prime rates, which is their charge for large corporate loans.

The reason that the higher interest charges didn't have their traditionally depressing impact on stock prices was that investors saw the action as an encouraging sign that the Carter administration is going to fight inflation seriously.

And the interest in buying stocks, both on the part of American institutions such as insurance companies and pension funds, and foreign investors has been so great in the

final half of April that the rally has a momentum of its own. Institutional and foreign investors had been staying out of the market for the past year and a half, amassing piles of cash they now are eager to put into stocks.

"The first thing you have to do is set up a constant psychological situation and then the market's success feeds on itself. After you get the market into motion, it doesn't just stop on a dime," said Larry Wachtel of Bache, Halsey, Stuart & Shields.

Financial experts say the current foreign interest in American stocks appears likely to continue for a while. One reason is that the dollar's recent strength in foreign exchange trading also has made investing in U.S. companies more attractive than before because it lessens the possibility that the investors will lose money through a decline of the dollar against their native currency.

The dollar lost more than 20 per cent of its value against the currencies of West Ger-

many and Japan in 1977 and early this year, meaning that a German or Japanese investor would have broken even if his stock had gone up by that percentage. Because most stocks fell precipitously during that period, the foreign investor stood to lose more because of the currency translation than did an American stockholder.

But that same depreciation of the dollar and drop in the stock market has created many bargains now for foreign investors — their money now buys many more shares in an American company than it would have a year ago when their money was worth fewer dollars and when the price of the stock was higher.

The stock market and the foreign exchange market feed on each other. A stronger dollar heartens Wall Street and stocks frequently climb on that news. And in foreign exchange trading, higher stock prices on Wall Street often make the dollar more attractive, causing it to rise in value.

One of the reasons the dollar has been weak for several

months is the United States' problem with inflation, which now is running at about 7 per cent a year. President Carter's steps to address rising prices have encouraged investors, prompting them to be more bullish.

The Dow Jones Average of 30 industrial stocks plunged more than ten points on Thursday after the Federal Reserve Board tightened its credit policy. But the average rebounded yesterday with a 10.40 gain and ended the week up 24.52 to 837.32.

Wachtel predicted the present rising market would continue until the volume of stocks changing hands slips to about 20 million for a few days consecutively.

The NYSE Composite Average of more than 1,500 common stocks rose 1.28 during the week to close at 53.90 yesterday. The American Stock Exchange Market Value Index climbed 33 to 136.36.

Standard and Poor's Index of 500 stocks rose 2.49 to 96.83.

WANTED FOR RENT

A ground floor or small villa should consist of two or three bedrooms, a salon, a dining room and telephone and be centrally heated. Old building is preferable. Please contact Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel. 41361, Room no. 901 - Madame Samir

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN AMMAN WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY AWSA

Notice of international competitive bidding and invitation to tendering

AWSA invites contractors and equipment suppliers, from countries who are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) and Switzerland, to submit bids for the construction programme of the water supply and sewerage extension for the city of Amman as specified hereinafter. This programme is partially financed by the International Development Association (IDA):

Contract No.	Description
2S	Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Shmeisani and Nuzha comprising about 1 km. of mains, and 40 kms. of laterals and house connections.
3WS	Laying of water pipes in Jabal Hussein, Jabal Amman and Sports City. Also supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same area. The work comprises about 3 kms. of water mains and 55 kms. for water laterals and house connections; 40 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections.
4WS	Laying of water pipes in Hashimi, Qusor, and Nazzal. Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same area. The work comprises about 48 kms. of water laterals and house connections. Water reservoir in Hashimi.
6WS	Laying of water pipes and supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Marka. Work comprises about 36 kms. of water lateral and house connections; 18 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections and civil works for one sewerage pump station.

Tender documents are available from AWSA in Amman. The price of each is a nonrefundable amount of JD 100.- (One hundred Jordanian dinars). The closing date for receiving the offers is 12:00 noon on June 15, 1978. Envelopes must be numbered accordingly:

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AMMAN — JORDAN
Cable address: AWSA — Amman/Jordan.

General Manager
Tahsin Sabbagh

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FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1978

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day fine for handling tasks you've had little time for during the rest of the week. You are out under good aspects now force any issues with family members.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact good friends early the day and include them in a plan you have in mind. Allow time to engage in favorite hobby.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Your efficiency is high now and you can accomplish much in creative activities. Be active for increased harmony at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A new project you have in mind needs more study before putting it in operation. Allow time for recreational activities you enjoy.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You have fine creative ideas now that should be put in operation without delay. Take no chances with your health.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Come to a fine understanding with family members early in the day. Later avoid one who is an eye on your assets. Use common sense.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Outline projects you want work on in the months ahead, and make sure there are obstacles in the path of progress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Show increased devotion to closest tie. Make plans for the days ahead and be sure handle financial affairs intelligently.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study a home situation and try to improve it in every way you can. Make plans to have greater abundance in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure out to improve your social life in the days ahead. Make plans to improve your social life in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to study and figures for any improvements to property you may want to make. Relax at home tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Do what you have promised to do early in the day since later something may need that needs your undivided attention.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Follow your hunches early the day, since they are likely to be far off target later. A trusted friend can give you the advice you need.

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Louisville's Arab-Americans: A vital force in development

By Polly L. Moter

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky, (IPS) — A temperate climate and a Mid-American location have attracted many to Louisville, a bustling industrial centre on the Ohio River, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year.

Among them is Dr. Badr Al Din Ali, a sociology professor from Cairo now teaching at the University of Louisville. And he gives other reasons for settling here. "Immigrants from the Middle East," he says, are drawn to Louisville because of its "comfortable mixture of northern progressiveness and southern conservatism."

Dr. Ali Elouf Bastawi, also Egyptian-born and Chairman of the Pediatric Dentistry Department at the Health Sciences Centre, calls Louisville a "friendly community" with the "serenity of a small town and the advantages of a big city."

Professor Ali and Dr. Bastawi take pride in a city that is one of America's leading trade and transportation centres, and, as a result, a city with a varied cultural legacy.

Germans, Latin Americans, Ukrainians, Italians, Irish, Indians, French and Arabs are among the people of foreign descent who have found hospitality and opportunities in Louisville. They have helped build a city that today has nearly a million people in the greater metropolitan area, and as one of the top industrial markets in America, produces a diversity of items ranging from home appliances to pa-

ints and chemicals, Louisville slinger baseball bats, trucks, tractors, cigarettes, plumbing equipment, and bourbon whiskey.

Arab Heritage Weekend

Louisville's foreign-born citizens and their descendants have assimilated so well that their cultural differences were largely imperceptible to many in the area until the Chamber of Commerce organised the first series of heritage salutes in the summer of 1974. The Arab Heritage Weekend, a popular feature of the annual programme, has subsequently afforded for many Louisvillians a fascinating first glimpse of Arab culture. The 1977 event, staged on Louisville's Riverfront Plaza, featured an Arabian horse show; dances such as the dabka, performed by the Ramallah Dancers; and the Lebanese Folk Dancers; Arabic food; a programme of Arabic songs; and an audiovisual presentation on Jordan, Iraq and Egypt that included material on the treasures of King Tut's Tomb, now on exhibit in the United States.

Robert Metry, a Louisville attorney whose parents were born in Hamat, Lebanon, was the impetus behind the first Arab Heritage Weekend. He remembers the complications and satisfaction of organising the exhibits and entertainment.

"The first year," he said, "was the most aggravating but the most fun. A small Arab-American committee did most of the work. The Jordanian Embassy in Washington

sent native crafts, printed material, and their cultural attaches, the women of our community cooked the Arabic food; and, of course, our own people entertained and taught the audience our native dances."

"The heritage weekends are important not only in sharing our culture with non-Arab Louisvillians but also in maintaining traditions within our own community," Mr. Metry added.

Other activities

Louisville's Arab-American community, which comprises an estimated 3,000 persons, is involved in a variety of other activities which keep them in touch with their rich cultural heritage. One such event is the Arabian Knights Bazaar held in the spring.

The public affair includes a full-course Arabic dinner, dancing to oative music and a gift display of imports from the Middle East.

The bazaar has been a key project of the Arab-American Association, one of four local groups including the Lebanese-American Country Club, the Organisation of Arab Students, and St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church -- that provide a social and cultural outlet for Arab-Americans in Louisville.

The Arab-American Association was organised four years ago to provide a sense of community for a broad cross-section of Arab nationalists. With more than 50 per cent of its 120 members foreign-born, the organisation is open

to anyone of Middle Eastern descent.

Lebanese-Syrian heritage

Membership in the Lebanese-American Country Club, on the other hand, is restricted to people of Lebanese and Syrian heritage. Situated on scenic River Road overlooking the Ohio, the club provides its 200 members with facilities for swimming, tennis, dances, baseball, softball, and dinners -- often with Arabic menus.

Joseph P. Karem, now a retired lawyer, was one of the founders of the organisation in 1950 and served as its president for the first ten years of its existence. "Our people had never had a place to meet together," he said. "I found the land and within a few months we raised enough money from our own members, which numbered about 75 at that time, to pay for the property and to build a clubhouse. Every one of our members was paid back and today I think we're the only solvent country club in the city."

The Eastern Orthodox Church, established in Louisville in 1934, also serves to meet social and cultural -- as well as the religious -- needs. Bob Metry explained, "St. Michael's is where I see my cousins and my life-long friends. The Sunday dinners we have for the parish draw people I might not see during the week."

To a large extent, Middle Easterners have clustered in Louisville's East End near the church much as the early immigrants gathered in closely-knit family and neighbourhood groups.

Young people

A less visible but nevertheless viable force in the adjustment of young people is the Organisation of Arab Students.

According to Nabil Salama, past president of the group, the club drew so much interest at the last Arab Heritage Weekend that it will be expanded to include students attending Jefferson Community College in downtown Louisville as well as the University of Louisville students it has served for three years. Louisvillians of Middle Eastern heritage and international students -- many of whom are on scholarships from their governments -- meet at the University of Louisville's International Centre to share common interests and problems.

Ninety-six students from eleven Arabic-speaking countries attended the U. of L. last year and Mr. Salama feels that the excellent reputation of the university's engineering school has drawn many of the students whose governments are increasing emphasis on the



A participant in the Arab Heritage Weekend demonstrates a dance from her homeland culture. The weekend is part of a series of ethnic celebrations held in Louisville each year.

technical aspects of oil production.

Mr. Salama, a first-year law student at U. of L., exhibits the diligence typical of the city's Arab population. Beside his schoolwork and club activities, he works as a cashier at the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and helps on weekends in his father's grocery.

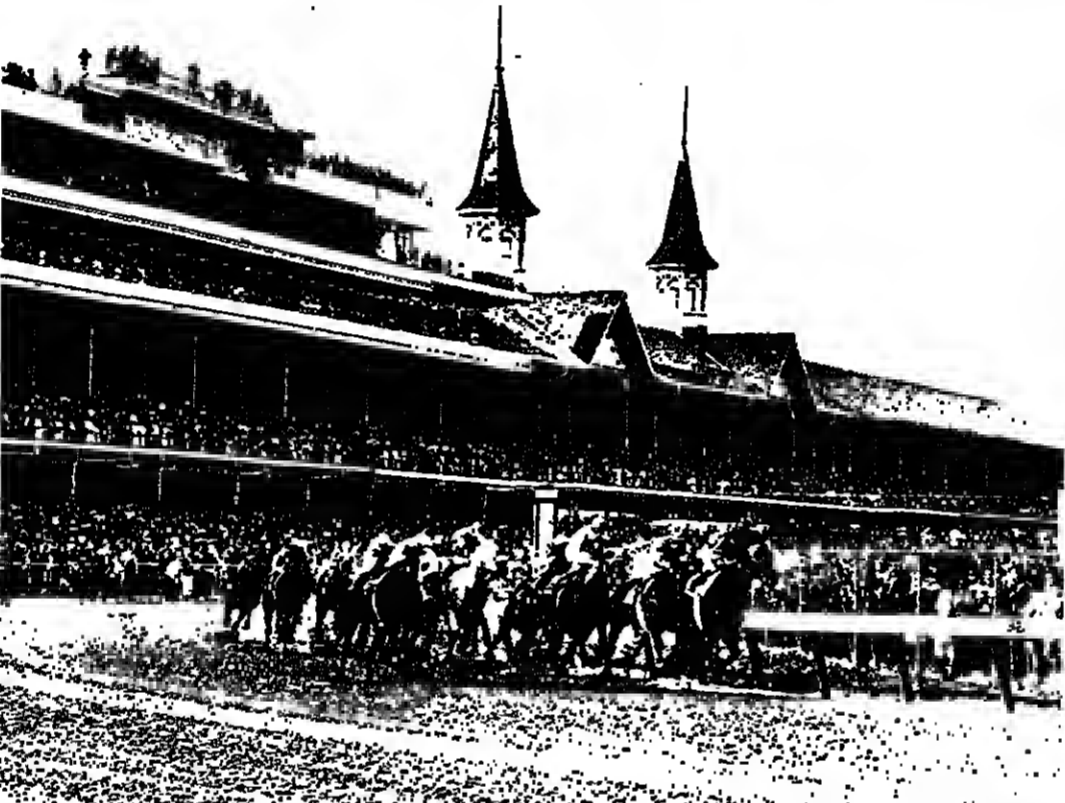
His parents, Frank and Betty (Farah and Badia), came to Louisville about 35 years ago with other family members from Ramallah, Palestine. Dr. Salama by opportunities offered by Issa and Youssef Batah, owners of the Ramallah Trading Co. in New York City, the men became traveling salesmen and eventually opened retail businesses in Louisville. So many from their village preceded and followed them that a joke developed among the local group of about 75 people that there are 20 times more Ramallahs in this country than in Ramallah.

They steadfastly pass on their traditions to their American-born children by teaching them Arabic, and by participating in the Ramallah Dance Troupe and the local chapter of the Ramallah-American Federation.

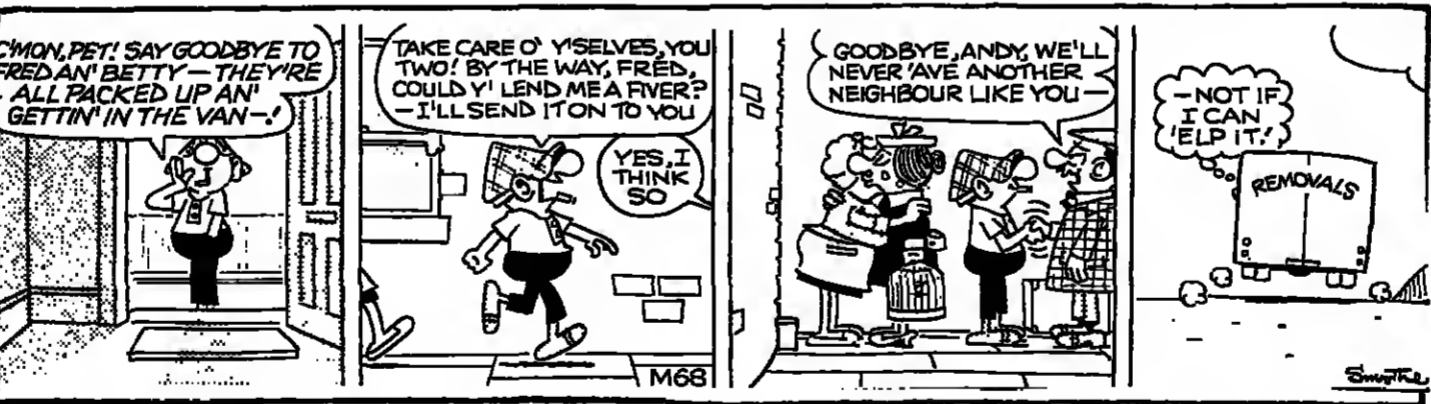
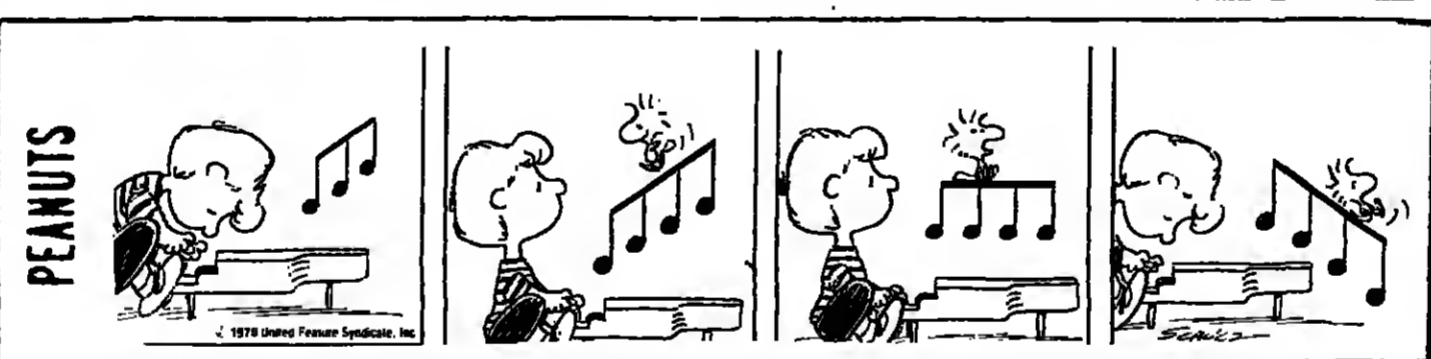
Lebanese community

Louisville's Lebanese community represents the largest and perhaps the most culturally assimilated Middle Eastern segment in the city. Many of the families hail from Hamat and Waj Alhajer.

But the first Lebanese immigrant in the area, Lahod Karem, came from Besharri, Lebanon, in 1884. After starting as a peddler, Lahod eventually opened a small dry goods shop which grew into a successful import store. He gave hundreds of his fellow countrymen a start in Louisville by consigning them items on credit to peddle throughout the countryside. He sponsored more than 800 Lebanese in applications for citizenship, helped his friends open bank accounts, and, an ardent Democrat, made a point of seeing that the Lebanese registered to vote. He earned such esteem from his countrymen that he was dubbed "the king of the Syrians."

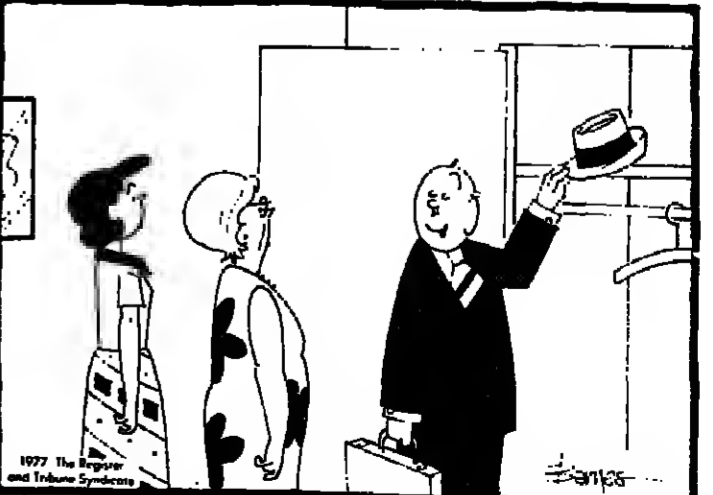


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